

Message Text

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ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 TAR-01 TRSE-00

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 EUR-12 /092 W

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P 301850Z OCT 75

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 698

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PASS STR FOR AMB DENT FROM WALKER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, RO

SUBJECT: ROMANIA AND MTN - AMBASSADOR DENT'S MEETING WITH
ROMANIANS WEEK OF NOVEMBER 3

REF: DENT-WALKER TELECON OCT. 29

1. SURVEY OF U.S. MTN DEL PROJECT MANAGERS INDICATES ROMANIA HAS CONTRIBUTED LITTLE OF REAL SUBSTANCE IN MTN MEETINGS THUS FAR BEYOND REITERATION OF FAVORITE ROMANIAN THEMES, NAMELY (A) ENDORSEMENT OF LDC INITIATIVES FOR SPECIAL AND DIFFERENTIATED MEASURES (USUALLY WITH SOME FAIRLY EXPLICIT REFERENCE TO ROMANIA AS A DEVELOPING COUNTRY; IN THIS CONNECTION ROMANIA HAS RECENTLY SUBMITTED TROPICAL PRODUCTS REQUEST LISTS TO THE EC AND SWITZERLAND BUT NOT THUS FAR TO THE U.S.), (B) DESIRABILITY OF ACCELERATING PROGRESS IN MTN, ESPECIALLY IN AGRICULTURAL AREA, AND (C) DIS-ENCHANTMENT OF SMALLER COUNTRIES OVER THEIR LACK OF INFLUENCE ON OUTCOME OF PRIVATE MEETINGS OF BIG COUNTRY DELEGATIONS WHEN PROCEDURAL DISPUTES ARISE.

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ROMANIANS TEND TO BE MORE TALKATIVE IN MTN MEETINGS

THAN OTHER EASTERN EUROPEANS (AND MORE SO THAN MOST LDCS OTHER THAN LEADERS SUCH AS BRAZIL, INDIA, ETC.) AND THUS THEY GIVE IMPRESSION OF INTEREST IN MTN DESPITE ABSENCE OF SPECIFIC PROPOSALS ON THEIR PART.

2. BILATERAL CONSULTATION ON ROMANIAN QR NOTIFICATIONS AGAINST U.S. WERE HELD IN SEPTEMBER IN FREINDLY BUSINESS-LIKE MANNER (REF GENEVA 7397).

3. PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC PREOCCUPATION OF ROMANIAN DELEGATION IN GENEVA IN PAST SIX MONTHS HAS BEEN LONG-RECESSED GATT WORKING PARTY ON ROMANIAN TARIFF AND PRIVATE EFFORTS OF U.S., EC, AND ROMANIAN REPS TO WORK OUT MUTUALLY-ACCEPTABLE FORMULA TO SUM UP WP'S VIEWS ON ROMANIAN TARIFF AND IMPLICATIONS FOR MAINTENANCE OF ROMANIA'S COMMITMENT UNDER PROTOCOL OF ACCESSION. U.S. MISSION GENEVA 6613 AUGUST 26 AND 6420 AUGUST 18 ARE LATEST IN THIS SERIES (BALL IS IN ROMANIA'S COURT). CONTACT OFFICER IN WASHINGTON ON THIS SUBJECT IS MATT LORIMER IN STATE, EB/EAST-WEST TRADE.

4. IN YOUR MEETING WITH ROMANIANS NEXT WEEK, I SUGGEST THAT YOU MIGHT RAISE FOLLOWING MTN ISSUES:

(A) AGRICULTURAL IMPASSE. YOU CAN ASSURE ROMANIANS WE ARE DILIGENTLY PRESSING EC TO ACCEPT A FORMULA TO PERMIT WORK TO PROCEED WITHOUT PREJUDICING EITHER SIDE'S FUNDAMENTAL POSITION AND WE ARE HOPEFUL A JOINT US-EC PROPOSAL WILL BE SUBMITTED TO GROUP AGRICULTURE VERY SHORTLY. WHILE U.S. RECOGNIZES RELUCTANCE OF OTHERS TO RUBBER-STAMP US-EC COMPROMISES, INTERESTS OF ALL MTN PARTICIPANTS AT THIS STAGE SHOULD BE TO LET SUBSTANTIVE WORK GET UNDERWAY EVEN IF PRECISE LANGUAGE FALLS SHORT OF WHAT MANY WOULD LIKE. ROMANIAN SUPPORT FOR THIS LINE IN GROUP AGRICULTURE WOULD BE HELPFUL.

(B) SUBSIDIES/COUNTERVAIL. YOU MIGHT DRAW ATTENTION TO U.S. CONCEPTS PAPER CIRCULATED IN MTN/NTM/W/26 AND NOTE SENTENCE RE NON-MARKET LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ECONOMIES (DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE WHETHER SUBSIDY EXISTS AND IN WHAT AMOUNT; SUBSIDIES BY NON-MARKET ECONOMY COUNTRIES WILL REQUIRE DIFFERENT RULES, PERHAPS IN CONTEXT OF SAFEGUARD RULES). SUGGEST YOU EXPRESS INTEREST IN ROMANIA'S VIEWS ON THIS QUESTION. (ROMANIANS LIKELY SAY THEY ARE AN LDC AND THIS RATHER THAN NON-MARKET NATURE OF THEIR ECONOMY SHOULD BE GOVERNING CRITERIA.)

(C) SAFEGUARDS. WITH WORK IN MOST CAPITALS
INCLUDING U.S. AT EARLY STAGE OF PLANNING, ROMANIAN
IDEAS ON HOW TO APPROACH PROBLEM OF NON-MARKET ECONOMY
COUNTRIES WOULD BE PARTICULARLY USEFUL. WALKER

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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